The recommendations yet to be finalised are those contained in Chapter VI (emergency Provisions) and Chapter X (Financial Relations) of the report of the Commission.

The Government intends to pursue a two track policy. On the first track, the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission on which there is already a broad consensus are proposed to be implemented through legislation and administrative action as appropriate. On the second track, the Government proposes to appoint a High Level Committee to review and update the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission and look into the vital question of develution of financial powers from the Central Government to the State Governments.

(d) the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Production of Rubberwood

2096. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether shrinking cover in the country has led to the shortage of timber;

(b) whether this has shifted the focus on rubberwood plantation; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to increase the production of rubberwood in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) No, Sir. According to the State of Forest Report, 1993, the total forest cover of the country as per 1993 assessment has increased by 925 sq. km. in comparison to 1991 assessment.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[Translation]

Beef Trade

2097. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :
SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH :

Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that illegal beef trade in going on in Dehradun and Gonda, Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the beef is also being sold illegally in hotels in the State; and

(c) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against the owners of the said hotels and to check the illegal beef trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (c). Information from the Government of Uttar Pradesh is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

New Bogies

2098. SHRI UDAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some requests for providing some bogies in different classes from Sangli, Kolhapur and Miraj on the newly introduced trains between Pune and Howrah and also between Pune and Ahmedabad, have been received in February, 96;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any action on these requests has since been taken; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Some representations for providing through coaches/ direct train services from Kolhapur to Calcutta, Varanasi and Ahmedabad etc. to serve the public of Miraj, Sangli and Satara areas, have been received during February/ March'96.

(c) and (d). Examined but have not been found feasible at present due to operational and resource constraints.

Bangladeshi Refugees

2099. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Bangladeshi refugees mushrooming around the Connaught Place area;

(b) whether some of these have been found involved in the Drug trafficking and other crimes;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is any proposal to deport them, and

(e) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of House.